

# Core Courses

The six core classes give students the grammar, vocabulary, speaking and listening skills that they need to become proficient speakers of English.

**Fees:** Each core class costs 100,000 kyats per term.

## English Level 1 (Beginner)

**Ms. Ilonka Meier**

Section A: Mon.-Fri. (8:15 am-9:45 am)

Section B: Mon.-Fri. (1:15 pm-2:45 pm)

**Registration: April 22 & 23** (9:00 am-11 am)

This class is for beginning students of English who are interested in improving their proficiency in the spoken and written word. We will take a student-centered approach to learning with an emphasis on communication activities, including pair and group work. The goal of this course is to provide students sufficient control of spoken English to use it in a variety of conversations.

## English Level 2 (High Beginner)

**(Teacher to be announced)**

Section A: Mon.-Fri. (10:15 am-11:45 am)

Section B: Mon.-Fri. (1:15 pm-2:45 pm)

**Registration: April 22 & 23** (9:00 am-11 am)

This course uses the Interchange series by Jack C. Richards, et al. This series includes student books, workbooks, audiocassettes and videotapes. The course is designed to improve your proficiency in speaking, listening, writing and reading. Special emphasis will be given to developing your speaking and listening skills. The goal of this course is to give you a higher-level range of comprehension skills and to communicate in English more effectively and fluently, especially in everyday situations.

## English Level 3 (Low Intermediate)

**Mr. Gregory Williams**

Section A: Mon.-Fri. (8:15 am-9:45 am)

Section B: Mon.-Fri. (10:15 am-11:45 am)

**Registration: April 22 & 23** (9:00 am-11 am)

This course continues to increase students' abilities in speaking and comprehending spoken English. Continuing with the Interchange series, books 2 and 3, the course revisits and expands on key grammar forms from the High Beginner course, including past continuous, passive, participles as adjectives, and gerund phrases. We will improve English skills through pair work, group work and presentations.

## English Level 4 (Intermediate)

**Ms. Christina Peterson and Ms. Mi Mi Hpu**

Section A: Mon.-Fri. (8:15 am-9:45 am)

Section B: Mon.-Fri. (1:15 pm-2:45 pm)

Section C: Mon.-Fri. (3:00 pm-4:30 pm)

**Registration: April 22 & 23** (9:00 am-11 am)

This class covers many topics, such as cultural expectations, the environment, defining problems and coming up with solutions, talking about the future, giving opinions on controversial topics, making conclusions, offering advice, and describing challenges. It will cover a variety of grammar areas including modals, passive voice, complex noun phrases, and gerunds.

## English Level 5 (High Intermediate I)

**Ms. Jamie Monson and Ms. Jenny Otting**

Section A: Mon., Wed. & Fri. (10:15 am-11:45 am)

Section B: Mon., Wed. & Fri. (5:00 pm-6:30 pm)

Section C: Mon., Wed. & Fri. (3:00 pm-4:30 pm)

**Registration: April 22 & 23** (9:00 am-11 am)

This class is designed to improve your writing skills, particularly essay writing. Upon completion of this course, you will be familiar with the components of an essay, and be able to plan, organize, write and revise a focused essay. You will gain essential writing and reading skills, including summarizing, capitalization, punctuation, topic recognition and vocabulary development. Through regular group activities, you will gain confidence in conversational English and will be constantly challenged to think critically.

## English Level 6 (High Intermediate II)

**Mr. Steve Davis and Ms. Jennifer Call**

Section A: Mon., Wed. & Fri. (10:15 am-11:45 am)

Section B: Mon., Wed. & Fri. (3:00 pm-4:30 pm)

Section C: Mon., Wed. & Fri. (5:00 pm-6:30 pm)

**Registration: April 22 & 23** (9:00 am-11 am)

This course is designed to help you improve your critical thinking skills through reading, writing, speaking, and listening activities. The primary focus of this course is to prepare students for university-level writing, speaking, note-taking, and analysis. Course content is presented in thematic units and consists of scholarly articles, case studies, literature, film, music, and student-generated debate. Students will perform course activities both individually and in small groups.

# Electives

## World Affairs

**Ms. Christina Peterson**

Mon., Wed. & Fri. (10:15 am-11:45 am)

**Registration: April 24** (9:00 am-11 am)

**Fees: 50,000 Kyats**

World affairs is intended for students who want to understand current events while learning about how and why different countries interact with each other. This course will cover basic theory and topics in world affairs: international institutions, economics, environment, resources distribution and migration. The course will include readings, discussion, role-play, art, films and writing. Emphasis will be given on critical thinking, reading and writing skills useful for TOEFL and/or IELTS.

Prerequisite: Completed Level 5 or equivalent. Interview required.

## Engaging Arguments

**Ms. Jenny Otting**

Tues. & Thurs. (10:15 am-11:45 am)

**Registration: April 24** (9:00 am-11 am)

**Fees: 50,000 Kyats**

This class will provide students the opportunity to learn the formal method of presenting arguments in support and against a given issue. It is designed to help develop necessary skills in public speaking, researching, analytical thinking and team work at a high academic level. Students will learn the theory behind creating effective arguments and learn to recognize fallacies and argument adequacy. Participants will choose a major topic to research throughout the course in order to participate in an end of semester argumentative tournament.

Prerequisite: Completed Level 6 or equivalent. Interview required.

## Argumentation: A Linked Approach to Academic Skills

**Ms. Jenny Otting and Mr. Steve Davis**

Mon.-Thurs. (8:15 am-9:45 am)

**Registration: April 24** (9:00 am-11 am)

**Fees: 90,000 Kyats**

Students will attend four classes per week. Two classes (taught by Steven Davis) will be devoted to researching a special topic. Students will work critically with this topic through reading, writing, and discussion. In the other two classes (taught by Jenny Otting), students will work with the same topic to present reasons that persuade an audience and learn a formal method of presenting arguments in support of and against a given position. By taking linked classes, students will see that approaching a topic from different angles can improve

both their analytical thinking skills and their ability to communicate. Students must be able to attend all four classes.

Prerequisite: Completed Level 6 or equivalent. Interview required.

### The Ethics of Volunteer Service

*Ms. Jamie Monson*

Mon., Wed. & Fri. (3:00 pm-4:30 pm)

**Registration:** April 24 (9:00 am-11 am) **Fees:** 50,000 Kyats

In this course we will discuss the ethical questions that come up when people do volunteer service. We will use real-life examples from US-based programs, as well as from other countries, to discuss how themes like power and social status relate to the desire to help others. We will place our discussion in historical perspective while considering its relevance for today's world. This course will be based on discussion, field trips and practical assignments. All points of view will be welcome.

Prerequisite: Completed Level 6 or equivalent.

### Understanding Mass Media

*Ms. Michelle Schaner*

Mon., Wed. & Fri. (1:15 pm-2:45 pm)

**Registration:** April 24 (9:00 am-11 am) **Fees:** 50,000 Kyats

This course has been designed to improve the English language skills of students with a special focus on those interested in mass media. It will provide students the opportunities to analyze different forms of communication, from print to Internet. Through these opportunities, students will expand not only their knowledge of basic and complex communicative concepts but also their English language abilities. There will be numerous reading and writing activities in and out of class. These will be used to give students individual experience in using the concepts and skills covered in class.

Prerequisite: Completed Level 5 or equivalent. Interview required.

### Global Media Studies

*Ms. Michelle Schaner*

Tues. & Thurs. (1:15 pm-2:45 pm)

**Registration:** April 24 (9:00 am-11 am) **Fees:** 50,000 Kyats

This course will serve as a follow-up on concepts and ideas discussed in Understanding Mass Media. There will be numerous projects, as well as reading and writing activities in and out of class. These will be used to give students individual experience in using media and a greater understanding of the concepts covered in class.

Prerequisite: Intro Media, Understanding Mass Media/ Completed Level 5 or equivalent. Interview required.

### Community Journalism

*Ms. Michelle Schaner*

Tues. & Thurs. (3:00 pm-4:30 pm)

**Registration:** April 24 (9:00 am-11 am) **Fees:** Free

This class is intended for newly-hired, working journalists. The class will focus on how to more fully-develop stories and "beats," as well as introduce discussions about ethics and issues that reporters and editors face. Numerous writing and reading exercises will be discussed in class.

Prerequisite: Completed Level 2 or equivalent. Interview required.

### Connect With English

*Ms. Ilonka Meier*

Tues., Wed. & Fri. (10:15 am-11:45 am)

**Registration:** April 24 (9:00 am-11 am) **Fees:** 50,000 Kyats

The major goal of this class is to help students build listening comprehension skills and gain a clear understanding of the characters and story lines found in "Rebecca's Dream", a serialized television drama. Additional emphasis is placed on recognition skills related to facial expressions, body language and cultural nuances.

Prerequisite: Completed Level 3 or equivalent. First come first served.

### Mastering the TOEFL

*Ms. Mi Mi Hpu*

Mon., Wed & Fri. (5:00 pm-7:00 pm)

**Registration:** April 24 (9:00 am-11 am) **Fees:** 120,000 Kyats

This class will help you prepare for the TOEFL exam. The goal of this class is to help students receive a high score in the TOEFL. Lessons will include note-taking, essay writing, listening and speaking. We will also discuss various effective test-taking strategies.

Prerequisite: Completed Level 4 or equivalent. First come first served.

### American Pop Culture

*Mr. Robert Riski*

Tues. & Thurs. (10:15 am-11:45 am)

**Registration:** April 24 (9:00 am-11 am) **Fees:** 35,000 Kyats

In this class we will discuss American Pop Culture and its effect on the global community. We will discuss various popular figures and phenomena throughout the 20th and 21st Centuries (from the Andy Warhol Pop Art Movement in the 1960's to the Britney Spears craze of the new millennium). One of the aims of the class is to improve our critical thinking and analytical skills by questioning the images and messages that are constantly presented to us by the popular media.

Prerequisite: Completed Level 5 or equivalent. First come first served.

# SPRING Semester

April 27 to  
July 17, 2009

American  
English  
Language  
Classes



A M E R I C A N C E N T E R  
14 Tawwin Street, Dagon Township